[Translation]

Standard of Primary Education

1463. SHRI JAYSINH CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Standard of Primary Education has declined;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for not succeeding in the efforts made by the Government for improving the standard of primary education;

(d) whether the Government have promised education for all by 2005 under its Minimum Common Programme;

(e) whether this programme would prove successful; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (c) *Since the adoption of National Policy on Education, 1986, there has been a greater concern for quality and learners' achievement in primary education. Even while striving to improve enrolment and reduce drop-outs, measures have been initiated to improve quality.* These include:

(i) Operation Blackboard to improve the facilities in primary and upper primary schools.

(ii) The setting up of district Institutes of Education and Training (DIETs) to revamp pre-service teacher training and to introduce systemetic in-service teacher training for elementary school teachers.

(iii) Introduction of Minimum Levels of Learning (MLL) to improve learning competencies of children at primary level.

(iv) Development of text-books and teaching learning materials which are learner friendly and contextually relevant.

(v) Efforts of internationally assisted projects to improve the quality of primary education.

It is expected that these measures would result in an improvement in standards.

(d) to (f) The Common Minimum Programme states, inter alia, that:

(i) The United Front is committed to making the nation fully literate by the year 2005.

(ii) A special effort will be made in the States where there is very high incidence of illiteracy and constitute the bulk of educational deprivation.

To a large extent, the success of these efforts would depend on the availability and efficient utilisation of resources for universalisation of elementary education and adult literacy.

Computer Education in Schools

1464. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:
SHRI VAJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the schemes introduced for providing computers in schools for increasing the awareness regarding application of computer services in different sectors;

(b) the provision made for this purpose during the year 1997;

(c) the amount of grants or the number of computers provided to the schools in each State under the said schemes so far; and

(d) the details of other special programmes for the period of computer education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) (1) Computer Literacy and Studies in Schools (CLASS) Scheme implemented by the Ministry of HRD; and

(2) "Computer in Education Project: Computer in every high school" implemented by the Department of Electronics.

(b) Under the CLASS Scheme a budget provision of Rs. 20 Crs. has been made for the financial year 1997-98.

(c) Details are indicated in the enclosed statement.

(d) The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has introduced computer education at different levels in its affiliated schools. Courses are offered under work experience, as part of pre-vocational education at the secondary stage and as an elective subject under the academic stream.

The University Grants Commision has schemes for assisting universities for Establishment of Computer Centres, Upgradation of Comupter Centres, Master of Computer Application Courses and to colleges for procuring personal computers and its related software.

Statement

Grants Released under CLASS Scheme

(Rs. In lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of States/UTs/ Concerned Organisations	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1.	Andhra Pradesh	113.60	145.60	113.60
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	7.20	9.20	11.20
3.	Assam	76.40	74.40	74.40
4.	Bihar	98.40	100.40	98.40
5.	Goa	9.60	11.60	56.00
6.	Gujarat	108.80	153.925	108.80
7.	Haryana	93.60	45.60	45.60
8.	Himachal Pradesh	26.40	29.40	55.925
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	36.40	47.65	34.40
10.	Karnataka	163.50	126.00	104.00
11.	Kerala	124.00	76.00	125.60
12.	Madhya Pradesh	168.60	154.30	137.60
13.	Maharashtra	168.80	227.775	208.80
14.	Manipur	8.00	10.00	16.00
15.	Meghalaya	10.80	8.80	28.80
16.	Mizoram	8.00	10.00	9.60
17.	Nagaland	8.00	10.80	8.80
18.	Orissa	93.60	95.60	93.60
19.	Punjab	80.00	82.00	109.60
20.	Rajasthan	142.70	93.00	123.20
21.	Sikkim	8.80	10.80	12.80
22.	Tamil Nadu	169.90	152.80	110.40
23.	Tripura	8.00	67.50	12.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	250.20	271.05	236.80
25.	West Bengal	225.10	165.60	165.60
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	5.60	5.60	5.60
27.	Chandigarh Amn.	6.40	8.40	6.40
28.	N.C.T. of Delhi	89.40	89.75	64.00
29.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	6.40	4.80	7.20
30.	Daman & Diu	0.80	0.80	0.80
31.	Lakshdweep	7.20	7.20	7.20
32.	Pondicherry	6.40	6.40	6.40
33.	Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan	260.00	451.00	300.00
34.	Central Tibetan School Admn.	5.60	7.90	6.40
35.	Bal Bhawan Society	0.80	0.80	0.80
36.	Atomic Energy	5.60	5.60	5.60
		2601.80	2753.25	2511.925

[English]

Goitre

1465. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "20.5% Delhi children suffer from goitre" as reported in the. *Statesman* dated January 13, 1997;

(b) if so, whether the Government have conducted any study to know the exact number of persons suffering from goitre in the Capital;

(c) if so, whether the Union Government also propose to provide assistance to the Delhi Government to tackle the disease; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The survey conducted by the Directorate General of Health Services in 1978 in Delhi indicated that approx. 29% of persons were suffering from Goitre.

(c) and (d) The Government is providing financial assistance to all States/UTs including Delhi under the National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme for the following components:-

(i) Establishment of Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Cell.

(ii) Health Education and Publicity.